

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (canceled).

1 Claim 14 (currently amended): A system for charging, in a
2 packet based telecommunication network, the packet load per
3 connection, the system comprising:

4 _____ a measuring device for measuring a time period ~~(t)~~
5 during which a predefined number (N) of packets that belong
6 to a common packet connection are received or transmitted
7 during an entire session and through the connection so as
8 to define a measured time period (t), wherein the
9 predefined number is less than a total number of packets
10 carried over the connection during the entire session; and
11 a billing system for formulating a charge for use of
12 the connection in response to the measured time period (t).

1 Claim 15 (currently amended): The system recited in
2 claim 21 further comprising a calculation device,
3 responsive to said measuring device, for calculating a
4 ratio reflective of the number (N) of packets per said
5 time period (t) so as to yield a calculation result (r) and
6 supplying the calculation result (r) to ~~a~~ the billing
7 system.

1 Claim 16 (previously presented): The system recited in
2 claim 15 wherein the telecommunication network carries
3 system packets (RM, RESV) which comprise an indication (r1)
4 of capacity or priority of the connection and as requested
5 by a user, the system further comprising a first detection
6 device, responsive to the system packets, for reading out
7 the indication (r1) from the system packets and
8 transferring the indication (r1) to the billing system.

1 Claim 17 (previously presented): The system recited in
2 claim 15 wherein the telecommunication system carries
3 system packets (RM, RESV) which comprise an indication (r2)
4 of capacity or priority of the connection and as assigned
5 by the telecommunication system, the system further
6 comprising a second detection device, responsive to the
7 system packets, for reading out the indication (r2) from
8 the system packets and transferring the indication (r2) to
9 the billing system.

1 Claim 18 (previously presented): The system recited in
2 claim 15 further comprising an aggregation device for
3 aggregating the calculation result so as to form an
4 aggregated result and passing the aggregated result to the
5 billing system.

1 Claim 19 (previously presented): The system recited in
2 claim 16 further comprising an aggregation device for
3 aggregating said capacity or priority indications provided
4 by the first detection device so as to form aggregated

5 indications and passing the aggregated indications to the
6 billing system.

1 Claim 20 (previously presented): The system recited in
2 claim 17 further comprising an aggregation device for
3 aggregating said capacity or priority indications provided
4 by the second detection device so as to form aggregated
5 indications and passing the aggregated indications to the
6 billing system.

1 Claim 21 (new): The system in claim 14 wherein the packet
2 network is an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) network and
3 the packets are ATM cells.

1 Claim 22 (new): The system recited in claim 21 further
2 comprising a calculation device, responsive to said
3 measuring device, for calculating a ratio reflective of the
4 number (N) of ATM cells per said time period (t) so as to
5 yield a calculation result (r) and supplying the
6 calculation result (r) to the billing system.

1 Claim 23 (new): The system recited in claim 22 wherein the
2 telecommunication network carries system ATM cells (RM,
3 RESV) which comprise an indication (r1) of capacity or
4 priority of the connection and as requested by a user, the
5 system further comprising a first detection device,
6 responsive to the system cells, for reading out the
7 indication (r1) from the system cells and transferring the
8 indication (r1) to the billing system.

1 Claim 24 (new): The system recited in claim 22 wherein the
2 telecommunication system carries system cells (RM, RESV)
3 which comprise an indication (r2) of capacity or priority
4 of the connection and as assigned by the telecommunication
5 system, the system further comprising a second detection
6 device, responsive to the system packets, for reading out
7 the indication (r2) from the system packets and
8 transferring the indication (r2) to the billing system.

1 Claim 25 (new): The system recited in claim 22 further
2 comprising an aggregation device for aggregating the
3 calculation result so as to form an aggregated result and
4 passing the aggregated result to the billing system.

1 Claim 26 (new): The system recited in claim 23 further
2 comprising an aggregation device for aggregating said
3 capacity or priority indications provided by the first
4 detection device so as to form aggregated indications and
5 passing the aggregated indications to the billing system.

1 Claim 27 (new): The system recited in claim 24 further
2 comprising an aggregation device for aggregating said
3 capacity or priority indications provided by the second
4 detection device so as to form aggregated indications and
5 passing the aggregated indications to the billing system.